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625 by the several drives initiated during 1950-1952. In order to make certain of the mass participation of urban residents in these drives for the large-scale condemnation, arrest, and prosecution of criminals, the Communists took direct control of the urban population. Immediately after the Communist seizure of power, measures were taken to evacuate unemployed workers and those originally from neighboring rural areas.[27] During and after the Land Reform Movement, the exodus of farmers from rural areas was controlled by the City-village Joint Office, which was staffed with public security officials from both urban and rural communities. Anyone who planned to move from one community to another had first to obtain permission from the office. The continuous evacuation of unskilled and unemployed workers arranged by the trade unions in co-operation with public security agencies, was an attempt to reduce urban population and thus make it easier to control. The evacuation of one million urban inhabitants from the city of Shanghai to the neighboring farm districts was not merely an economic measure; it was a political scheme to strengthen "public security" in the city of Shanghai.[28]

625 Equally effective is the rigid control of census-
● 486 taking in the cities and in the rural communities.

27. Report of trade union work in Shanghai, Liberation Daily, Oct. 18, 1950 p. 1.

28. For summary of the measure, consult Forcible Evacuation of One-Seventh Shanghai's Population in Full Swing, Union Research, Series No. 1, Hong Kong, Sept. 6, 1955.

625 Two directives issued by the Shanghai Department
• 486 of Public Security in April 1951 [29] and one issued by the Department of Public Security of the East China Military and Political Committee [30] provide sufficient evidence. According to a directive for the city of Shanghai, any resident who wished to move had first to obtain permission from a public security agency. Persons who wished to stay overnight were to be reported. The directive of April 1952, applied to all the cities in the East China Region, had the same rigid pattern. The only exception was that visitors who stayed longer than three days were required to report. In Shanghai, an overnight guest had to register.

Hotels hospitals and other places accomodating transient personnel followed a somewhat different procedure. Daily reports were required. The nationwide census in 1953 placed urban residents under further vigilance. Planned purchase and marketing (another name for rationing) introduced at the end of 1953 also helped in strengthening control. A directive issued by the State Council in July 1955 placed the registration upon a permanent basis. [31] The census is to be taken annually, and responsibility rests solely on the public security agencies.

625 The establishment of various control agencies in the cities has been discussed under the general heading "Communist Political Power in the Cities" in the chapter on Political Dynamics.

29. Liberation Daily, April 22, 1951, p. 6.
30. Ibid., April 27, 1952, p. 2.
31. People's Daily, July 3, 1955, p. 1.